

Hunt (*Butterflies and moths of Kent 2*: 244-245) gives West Wickham as a historic locality, with records from 1896 and 1897. The moth also occurred widely in the adjacent localities of Hayes and Bromley at the end of the last century. The moth is not known to wander far from its known habitats and it is interesting to speculate upon its origin.

In the adjacent county of Surrey the Heart Moth is quite widely distributed, with Ashted as the most well-known locality (where it is sometimes common, and produces ab. *renago* from time to time). Those who have run traps at this site know the moth's disinclination to wander, as it is normally found at the top of a hill (a stiff walk with a generator). Those who run their light at the bottom of the hill invariably come home empty handed! Other localities in Surrey include Thorpe, Virginia Water, Leigh, Dorking, Betchworth, Buckland and East Horsley, although at none of these localities can it be described as either regular or common.

We are most grateful to Graham Collins for his helpful comments, and for supplying data from the *Surrey insect recording scheme*.— PETER JUPP, 125 Birch Tree Avenue, West Wickham, Kent and PAUL SOKOLOFF, 4 Steep Close, Orpington, Kent.

***Apion laevicolle* Kirby (Col. : Apionidae) in the New Forest**

Among a number of beetles taken on 29.vi.1952 at Brockenhurst in the New Forest, south Hampshire, but not critically examined until now, I was much surprised to find a specimen of the very local and usually scarce *Apion laevicolle* Kb. On that occasion I collected only in the vicinity of Butts Lawn and the nearby part of Balmer Lawn, obtaining among other things a good series of the uncommon ladybird *Hyperaspis pseudopustulata* Muls. The *Apion* was probably taken by sweeping, but the type, or types, of situation explored were quite unusual for the species, which is chiefly coastal or maritime. There are, it seems, no records for the Hampshire mainland; Fowler (1891, *Col.Brit.Isl.* 5: 147) gives three for the Isle of Wight, and one as far inland as Windsor. However, it appears to be more especially a Kent and Sussex species – I once found several at Deal on a sandy waste slightly inland, at roots of herbage, besides one at the Lizard. As the host is thought to be white clover, *Trifolium repens*, the weevil's range is obviously limited by factors other than the range of that ubiquitous plant.— A.A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.

Hazards of butterfly collecting – getting the shakes – United Kingdom, April 1993

Nine days after returning from six weeks of butterfly collecting in Ghana I was not really feeling my best, but then who does when exchanging the tropics for the vagaries of the English weather in early spring. A couple of aspirin generally kept the discomfort at bay.

On the tenth morning it was clear that I had a fever and that more radical action was called for. While trying to book a doctor's appointment, I